

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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The petty cares of business life wear away nervous strength, and this applies as much to the clerk at the desk as to the manager in his luxurious office. A thousand little details of duty requiring attention exhaust the nervous energy and cause one to fret over trifling things that would not receive a second thought under conditions of perfect health. Nervous fretful persons of either sex are usually poorly nourished and in all such cases the surest and quickest permanent relief is to be had by the use of

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The Other Side of the Hydrophobia Question

DR. HEARN ON RABIES.

"I am of the opinion that the bite of a dog is no more dangerous than the scratch of a pin, but because of exaggerated printed and oral accounts, the picture of hydrophobia is so stamped upon the public mind that the thought of it, after being bitten by a dog, throws imaginative people into such panics of nervous excitement that they unconsciously reproduce its supposed symptoms.

"Although I have practiced surgery in private and in many of the hospitals of Philadelphia for the past twenty years, I have never seen a case of hydrophobia either in man or dog, nor do I know of any other physician or surgeon who has."—Statement of Dr. Joseph W. Hearn, Fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Editor Washington Post: It is remarkable that erroneous impressions often take possession of the mind and remain for an indefinite period, creating an unnatural and undesirable mental or physical condition.

During the thirteenth century one of the greatest delusions the world has ever known made its appearance in Europe. People would suddenly lose control of their senses and begin to dance and scream, and this would continue with unabated fury until the patient fell completely exhausted, and death frequently resulted. The bite of a spider, named the tarantula, was thought to have been the cause of this simulated disease. Music was recommended as a remedy, and one writer says: "Fiddlers followed in the fields and played music when the harvesters were bitten." Gradually the scare diminished, and finally entirely disappeared, and now any one can be bitten by this insect and not become tarantulaic.

No Rabies When There Is No Fear. I call attention to this delusion to emphasize the fact that hydrophobia scares are similar in character, and if there is no fear of the disease, rabies will not appear in any human being. Desiring to inform myself in regard to the experience of those who are continually coming in contact with dogs and are frequently bitten, I have written to the officials of many of the large cities of the United States who have control of the departments that catch dogs to give me information. I could fill a page of the Post with the information I have obtained, and no person employed as a keeper of a kennel, or as a breeder of dogs, or as a dog catcher, as far as I have been able to learn, has ever had bad results from the bite of a dog.

Mrs. George S. Lovell, secretary Pennsylvania Women's S. P. C. A., writes from Philadelphia: "No dog catcher employed by us has ever had hydrophobia. I have never heard of the men manifesting any fear of the results when bitten." In a letter written to the Philadelphia Public Ledger Mrs. Lovell says: "At the Philadelphia dog pound, where on an average 6000 vagrant dogs, many of whom are sick, are taken in annually and where the catchers and keepers are frequently bitten while handling them, no case of hydrophobia has been known to exist."

Bitten 1500 Times; Escapes Disease. Daniel L. Bangert, general secretary Maryland S. P. C. A., writes from Baltimore: "We have never had any employee connected with our society for the past ten years, that has had any bad results from dog bites. One, Harry Miller, our oldest catcher, has been bitten at least 1500 times, and he has never, as yet, had any bad results. In some cases, where the men have any fear, they immediately cauterize the wound with a caustic stick. In other cases, one drop of carbolic acid is applied to the affected part, followed by one drop nitric acid, and dusted with bicarbonate of soda."

Alfred Wagstaff, president of the American S. P. C. A., writes from New York City: "Our dog catchers have seized over 500,000 dogs since 1894 and have been repeatedly and severely bitten on their hands, faces, and, in fact, on all parts of the body."

Some of the Dogs Were Mad. "On a number of occasions they have been bitten by dogs which were supposed to be rabid and in several instances, according to the Pasteur Institute, the autopsy has shown the dogs were mad. Aside from observing the ordinary precautions, such as having the wounds thoroughly cleaned and cauterized, no treatment has been given, and it is needless to say none of the men has ever developed hydrophobia."

George P. Weinbrenner, city marshal, St. Louis, says: "I beg to advise you that it is very common for a dog catcher to be bitten by a dog; in fact, some of the catchers have been bitten at least fifty times or more. They cauterize the wounds with pure carbolic acid and then wash with grain alcohol."

B. A. Booth, M. D., health department, Pittsburg, writes: "One of our

men has been bitten scores of times, but has kept no record. The medical treatment is carbolic acid and alcohol. The men exhibit no fear of being bitten, and no hydrophobia has developed."

Bite No Worse Than Pin Scratch.

I am indebted to Mrs. George S. Lovell for many letters written to her by physicians on this subject. Dr. Joseph W. Hearn, fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians and Surgeons and of the Philadelphia Academy of Surgeons, and professor of clinical surgery in Jefferson Medical College, writes: "I am of the opinion that the bite of a dog is no more dangerous than the scratch of a pin, but because of exaggerated printed and oral accounts the picture of hydrophobia is so stamped upon the public mind that the thought of it, after being bitten by a dog, throws imaginative people into such panics of nervous excitement that they unconsciously reproduce its supposed symptoms. Although I have practiced surgery in private and in many of the hospitals of Philadelphia for the past twenty years, I have never seen a case of hydrophobia, either in man or dog, nor do I know of any other physician or surgeon who has."

Attacks Bureau Pamphlet.

The bureau of animal industry has printed a circular entitled "Rabies and Its Increasing Prevalence." Its purpose seems to be to create fear and terror in the mind of any one who reads it and then to advertise the Pasteur treatment as a cure for rabies. It is reasonable to suppose that a public document, intended to give valuable information to the people, on a subject as serious as the fact claim hydrophobia to be, would, at least, say that cauterization is helpful as a first aid and that carbolic acid is often used beneficially for a dog bite.

The dog has always been a true and faithful friend and assistant of man. With an unerring instinct he hauls heavy loads over the mountains and through the terrific storms of Alaska. Every pioneer has praised his courage and wondered at his sagacity, and here in Washington he guards our homes and lives. He fair and give the dog a chance.

GILBERT HURD,
Washington, August 8, 1908.

DR. NORGAARD'S PROTEST.

Editor Advertiser: Under the heading "As to Hydrophobia" there appears in today's Star an editorial which purports to discredit the actual existence of such a disease as hydrophobia or at least to infer that its occurrence is so rare as to make it practically a negligible quantity. In support of this opinion, the writer quotes a dogcatcher in Denver, who happened not to take the disease, a Pennsylvania doctor, who after "doing his best" for fifteen years (his name was Dallas), failed to come face to face with the disease, and a skeptical doctor from Niagara Falls, and winds up by saying, "Of course these may be extreme views, but they can be hardly less so than a proposal to quarantine against dogs here from California and other States whose boast is that they never had a mad dog within their limits."

The skepticism in regard to the actual existence of rabies in dogs or hydrophobia in man is the inevitable outcrop of every campaign for the suppression of this disease when once introduced or for the prevention of its introduction where it has not yet made its appearance. As the writer of the editorial in question relies for his opinion on quotations I shall claim the same privilege, especially so long as it is my recommendations to the board of agriculture and forestry the soundness of which are questioned.

On page 201 of the 26th annual report of the Bureau of Animal Industry (1909) there is an article entitled "The Nature, Cause and Prevalence of Rabies," written by Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the pathological division of the bureau. This article begins as follows: "Skepticism with reference to the existence and prevalence of rabies in animals, or hydrophobia in man, strange as it may seem, is still entertained by a few prominent professional men. Their contention shows an unwillingness to accept the work of reputable investigators with regard to this particular disease, although other results obtained by the same investigators upon allied subjects are accepted and advocated. There is no greater galaxy of names associated with the study of any of the infectious diseases than is connected with the experimental investigation of rabies. The ablest scientists who have adorned the medical and veterinary professions and to whom we owe the greatest deference for having advanced our knowledge of contagious diseases, have repeatedly shown by their experiments that rabies is a specific, communicable disease, preeminently affecting the canine race, al-

Morning Cable Report

(Continued from Page One.)

NEW YORK, December 29.—A. Kaufman took the count in the fifth round of his fight with Palmer last night.

HONGKONG, December 29.—The steamer Sze-yap, which carried \$20,000 in treasure, has been captured and looted by pirates.

CITY OF MEXICO, December 28.—General Bernado Reyes, leader of the recent revolutionary fiasco, was yesterday taken to the military prison at San Diego.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Richard Croker and his sons are made the defendants in a suit brought by John J. Green, son-in-law and brother-in-law respectively, for the alienation of the affections of his wife, Ethel Croker Green. The amount demanded as damages for the loss of his wife's affection is \$100,000.

NANKING, December 28.—In the polling among the delegates of the various provinces assembled here for the purpose of electing a president of the Chinese republic, Dr. Sun Yat Sen received every vote. Not only was his election by acclamation, but no other candidates were mentioned at the convention, although warm praise was given General Li. Dr. Wu Ting Fang and others among the revolutionary leaders.

LONDON, December 28.—It is announced that the situation in Persia so far as British interests are concerned, is much more satisfactory. The Persian authorities have officially apologized to Consul Smart, who was wounded in a riot two days ago, and assurances made that he would be protected. The Persians urge the relinquishment of the reported plans for a British punitive expedition, due to the attack upon the British consul.

NORFOLK, December 28.—During a gale in Hampton Roads yesterday an unknown schooner rammed the U. S. destroyer Warrington, cutting a deep gash in her quarter.

Most of the crew of the destroyer was transferred to the steamer Onondaga, but the officers and fourteen volunteers remain with the Warrington and are bringing her into port.

It is reported that the little warship is in no special danger at this time, as the bulkheads are holding and only a part of the ship is full of water.

though all warm-blooded animals, including man, are susceptible to it.

"Many years of patient scientific research have been required to lend these investigators to a clear comprehension of the nature and characteristics of this disease. It was known and described several centuries prior to the beginning of the Christian era, and from the dawn of history the disease has been feared and dreaded. But it has been only in comparatively recent years that we have arrived at a tolerably clear understanding of the facts concerning this disease, which have to a certain degree displaced many of the fallacies and superstitions that have had a strong hold upon the public mind for years. Indeed, it is still a widely prevalent belief that if persons or animals are bitten by a dog they are liable to become rabid if the dog should contract the disease at any future time. There is no foundation for this impression, and it would be a great comfort to many people who are now and then bitten by animals if the fallacy of this idea were appreciated. All experience, both scientific and practical goes to show that rabies is transmitted only by animals that are actually diseased at the time the bite is inflicted."

So much for the skepticism and the superstition attending upon this disease. Columns upon columns have been written in practically every newspaper in every community where the disease has made its appearance, and the local dog catcher invariably occupies a prominent place, suggesting that he cannot have had time to do much else but to sit around and let the dogs bite him. But the same article above quoted shows definitely that rabies has been on the increase to an alarming extent for the past ten years throughout the United States, until in 1910 the official and authentic reports of state and municipal health officers show "that the disease occurs in almost every state in the Union, and the only places where it has been impossible to obtain positive information of its occurrence are Idaho, Utah, Nevada and Oregon," and now, according to the editorial in the Star the disease has appeared among the cattle in the latter state. And if the Oregon State Board of Health says so, the Star may take it for granted that it is so, for rabies is a disease the presence of which is never announced officially unless its occurrence is proven by animal inoculation—a proof which cannot be disputed.

In conclusion just a line in regard to the prevalence of rabies in the state of California. In his biennial report (1909-1910) the state veterinarian for California says: "Rabies is now endemic in California"—having previously described an outbreak with several hundred cases of rabies among dogs and cattle in Los Angeles, Stockton, Pasadena and the surrounding country. How does that agree with the Star's statement to the effect that California boasts that "they never had a mad dog within their limits?"

And finally, having had charge, for six years, of the rabies investigations of the federal bureau of animal industry in Washington, D. C., I don't hesitate to say that I would rather blow my brains out than have it charged to me that one single case of hydrophobia in man, woman or child in these islands could be ascribed to failure on my part, directly or indirectly, to have prevented the introduction of the disease here.

VICTOR A. NORGAARD,
Territorial Veterinarian.
Honolulu, Dec. 28, 1911.

ONE ADVANTAGE.

"Dat's a mighty short stub yer smokin' Weary."

"Yes! I know it; dat's de way I allers like 'em; you don't hey ter pull de smoke so fur!"—Boston Record.

Fine Job Printing at the Star office.

PROHIBITION OF ABSINTH

WASHINGTON, December 14.—Declaring absinth dangerous to health, the pure food board of the department of agriculture today decided that its importation into the United States should be prohibited after January 1.

The order awaits the signature of the secretary of agriculture before becoming effective.

"It is well recognized in all countries that have had experience therewith," says the decision, "that the use of the beverage known as absinth is dangerous to health."

A long and careful investigation was made by the bureau of chemistry before the decision of the food and drug inspection board was reached. Dr. Wiley, head of the board, expressed the opinion that "absinth is one of the worst enemies of man, and if we can keep the people of the United States from becoming slaves to this demon we will do it."

Under the food and drugs act the importation is forbidden of any food or drug "of a kind forbidden entry into or forbidden to be sold or restricted in sale in the country in which it is made or from which it is imported." Belgium and Switzerland have forbidden the manufacture of absinth and France has made rigid regulations of its manufacture and sale.

DOG APPLIES AT HOSPITAL.

DENVER, Col., December 9.—Limping on three legs, a tramp dog early today drifted into the operating room of the emergency hospital at police headquarters here. The animal walked up to Surgeon Mudd, who was reading a newspaper. The dog whined, but the surgeon paid no attention to him, except to place his hand on the dog's head. The dog gave another pleading whine and the surgeon looked down and saw the animal's hind leg was injured. About the injured member was a bandage of cotton gauze.

Dr. Mudd motioned toward the operating table. Instantly the dog leaped upon it. Removing the bandage, Dr. Mudd found the leg mashed and lacerated. While the surgeon cleansed the wound the dog lay on the table, never removing his gaze from the surgeon's face. The dog later was sent to the dog and cat hospital here.

It is believed the animal was attracted to the hospital by his sense of smell, the relief having been given him before at a place in which the smell of drugs was strong.

ROUSED BY STOLYPIN FRAUD.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 14.—Great indignation has been aroused throughout Russia by revelations of the fraudulent and criminal methods employed by Premier Stolypin and his aids in the overthrow of the second duma and in consigning a large number of deputies to imprisonment at hard labor or causing their expulsion. Mass meetings of laborers are taking place, as many as five being held in St. Petersburg alone in one day. They are attended by thousands despite the risk of arrest and deportation. Resolutions are being passed demanding a review of the trial of the innocent deputies who are still in prison. Petitions for such a review are circulated here and thousands of persons are signing them.

MARVELOUS.

"Modern journalism is a marvelous thing."

"That's what. Some papers manage to keep the baseball page going all winter."—Washington Herald.

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In the Progress of Church
Work and the Religious Development of the Hawaiian
and Pacific Islands?

If so, you should read

The Friend

The oldest and one of the most valuable church publications in this part of the world.

By a special arrangement with the publishers of The Friend, The Star is enabled to offer, for the short period to the end of the year, both The Star and The Friend for the price of The Star alone, i. e., \$8.00 per annum. That is, each new subscriber to The Star for a period of one year, beginning in October, November or December (paid in advance, of course) will, upon request, receive The Friend also for the twelve months.

This is an exceptional opportunity. It is experimental, and, as far as is now known, is temporary only.

Subscriptions on the basis indicated will be received at the

Star Office

McCandless Building,

Bethel Street,
Honolulu,

from and after today.

For convenience of persons finding it more desirable to use the mail, the following blank may be clipped, filled out and forwarded:

....., 1911

The Hawaiian Star,
Honolulu.

Find enclosed the sum of eight dollars for which please send me the daily Hawaiian Star and The Friend for a period of one year.

Name

St. No.*

P. O.

Island

*(To be filled if subscriber lives in Honolulu. Otherwise, left blank.)

This combination proposal is independent of the contest campaign now being inaugurated by The Star.

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.